

The HEAL Project School Bus Reimbursement Funding

The HEAL Projects' tiered fee structure aims to make our farm-based programs financially accessible to all schools regardless of percentage of students counted in your schools Unduplicated Pupils count (which includes students eligible for FRL, foster youth, english language learners and houseless students). We recognize that transportation costs can all too often be the deciding factor on whether a group can visit the farm or not. Our priority is to fund the highest need schools measured in unduplicated pupils count percentage, before lower need schools.

The HEAL Project (THP) applies for grant funding in order to offer bus stipend funding to schools. Since there are restrictions with grant funding (eg. school year, UPC%, class, grade level, or field trip type), we can not guarantee every school that is eligible will receive a bus stipend.

If a school is eligible for bus stipend funding then:

- 1. For a trip organizer to apply for a bus stipend please indicate interest by emailing our Farm Programs Manager at farm@thehealproject.org
- 2. THP Staff will communicate funding details to field trip organizers.
- 3. THP bus stipends funds are given as reimbursements only.
 - a. Field trip organizers are responsible for sourcing, coordinating and paying the transportation company's invoice.
 - b. THP reimburses some, or all, of the cost of the bus invoice, with a maximum reimbursement of \$800 per bus.
- 4. To maximize this limited resource, THP requests that busses are filled to capacity when possible, ie. two classes on a single bus receiving a stipend from THP.
- 5. THP does not pay transportation companies directly. Field trip organizers are responsible for submitting paid transportation company invoices (or equivalent material for reimbursement) to THP as soon as possible before the end of the school year. And must include the name and address of who the reimbursement check should be sent and made payable to.
- 6. THP will review submission and mail THP reimbursement within 2 weeks of receipt of the paid bus invoice.